

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 068717
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:WHBRUBECK:BDF
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S-O - SVALERGA
NSC:WQUANT
NEA: ALATHERTON

-----018603 170320Z /17

O 170201Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068717

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, SA, US, XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO KHALID'S LETTER

REF: JIDDA 2005

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S REPLY TO KING
KHALID'S LETTER REFTEL (ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED).

2. BEGIN TEXT: YOUR MAJESTY:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 068717

I APPRECIATE THE DEPTH OF CONCERN EXPRESSED IN YOUR
LETTER OF MARCH 15 REGARDING THE GRAVE SITUATION IN
SOUTHERN LEBANON. I SHARE FULLY THE DETERMINATION THAT
IT MUST NOT IMPEDE OUR EFFORTS AND OUR MUTUAL PURPOSE TO
BRING A PERMANENT AND JUST PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THE
UNITED STATES IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO THIS END.

WE HAVE STATED CLEARLY THE U.S. VIEW THAT WE EXPECT ISRAELI FORCES TO WITHDRAW FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON AND ARE IN URGENT CONSULTATION WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO BRING THAT ABOUT. WE HAVE STATED PUBLICLY THAT WE DEPLORE THE TRAGIC LOSS OF INNOCENT CIVILIAN LIFE ON BOTH SIDES RESULTING FROM THIS CONTINUING CYCLE OF VIOLENCE.

THE IMMEDIATE TASK IN SOUTHERN LEBANON IS TO REESTABLISH THE AUTHORITY AND CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON AND WE ARE CONSULTING WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS, AND PARTICULARLY THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON, AS TO HOW THIS CAN BE BEST AND MOST QUICKLY ACHIEVED. I HOPE I CAN COUNT ON THE HELP OF YOUR GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE IMPORTANT AND URGENT CONSULTATIONS NOW IN PROGRESS AT THE UNITED NATIONS AS TO A POSSIBLE UN ROLE IN HELPING TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ISRAEL WITHDRAW. IT IS EQUALLY ESSENTIAL TO RESTORE LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY UNDER CONDITIONS OF SECURITY AND STABILITY THAT WILL PUT AN END TO VIOLENCE AND GIVE PROTECTION TO INNOCENT CIVILIANS, WHETHER LEBANESE OR ISRAELI. OTHERWISE, SOUTHERN LEBANON WOULD SIMPLY RETURN TO THE CONDITIONS OF INSTABILITY AND VIOLENCE FROM WHICH INHABITANTS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER HAVE ALREADY SUFFERED TOO MUCH.

YOUR MAJESTY, IN THE SPIRIT OF THE CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WE ESTABLISHED DURING OUR MEMORABLE MEETING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 068717

IN RIYADH, I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW DEEPLY COMMITTED I AM TO PURSUING THE GOAL OF A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH I GRIEVE FOR THE INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THE TRAGIC VIOLENCE THAT ONCE AGAIN HAS ERUPTED IN YOUR REGION. FINALLY, I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH I WILL VALUE YOUR COUNSEL AND SUPPORT IN THE WEEKS AHEAD AS I PURSUE THE COURSE TO WHICH I AM FULLY COMMITTED. YOU HAVE MY VERY BEST WISHES. END TEXT.

3. IN DELIVERING LETTER, YOU MAY ADD THAT AMONG THE POSSIBILITIES WE ARE EXPLORING IS THAT OF A UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE TO BE INSERTED AFTER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN THE BORDER REGION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON. ITS PURPOSE WOULD BE TO CREATE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH, AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE, LEBANESE AUTHORITY COULD BE RESTORED AND THE LEBANESE ARMY COULD TAKE OVER THE SECURITY FUNCTIONS IN THE SOUTH. THE ISRAELIS HAVE ASSURED US THAT THEY DO NOT INTEND TO REMAIN IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. THEY INSIST, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MUST BE ARRANGEMENTS TO PROTECT THEM AGAINST ATTACKS SUCH AS THE RAID OF LAST WEEK.

4. IT WILL, OBVIOUSLY, BE NECESSARY TO HAVE THE COOPERATION OF SYRIA IF LEBANESE AUTHORITY AND CONTROL ARE TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED. WE HOPE THAT SAUDI ARABIA CAN HELP ASSURE SYRIAN COOPERATION. SAUDI ARABIA'S ROLE IN RESOLVING THIS VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION CAN BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, AND WE WANT TO REMAIN IN CLOSE CONSULTATIONS TO BRING ABOUT AN EARLY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF POSSIBILITY

SAUDIS CAN BE BROUGHT TO ACTIVE SUPPORT, WITH SYRIA AND AT UN, OF A UN PEACEKEEPING ROLE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON.
VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, REPRISALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE068717
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WHBRUBECK:BDF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780118-0514
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780354/aaaabtdh.tel
Line Count: 128
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e2b0ffc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 JIDDA 2005
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3288479
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO KHALID'S LETTER
TAGS: PEPR, PPDC, MARR, SA, US, XF, IS, LE, (CARTER, JIMMY), (KHALID, KING)
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e2b0ffc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014